

those who after returning to civilian life succumb to sickness or age, the federal government has provided an extensive net of national cemeteries where they are laid to rest with honor and allow us to fulfill the solemn oath that their service to the nation will never be forgotten.

In fulfillment of that oath, today I have the honor to recognize the dedication of the Morovis VA National Cemetery, located within the boundaries of the Municipality of Morovis in my beautiful island of Puerto Rico. Strategically located in the northern side of the island and surrounded by an inspiring and peaceful tropical landscape, it will provide the perfect setting to honor our fallen soldiers while providing a protective sanctuary where their families and friends can remember their lives and mourn their passing.

In the coming years, as the warm and moist earth of Morovis, Puerto Rico slowly embraces the remains of the valiant citizen soldiers who sailed to the far-flung battlefields of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Middle East, and many other locations; and for those that will follow on their steps in the defense of liberty, let's not forget that the quest to achieve full rights and equality within the American democracy is seeded with their blood, sweat and tears. Their sacrifice compels us to continuously strive to demolish any barriers that impede the enjoyment of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of happiness for all the citizens of our great nation.

REINTRODUCTION OF H.R. 8768,
THE "KEEPING AMERICA'S EN-
ERGY RESOURCES MOVING ACT"

HON. RANDY K. WEBER, SR.

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today, with my fellow Texan, Congresswoman SYLVIA GARCIA, to bring attention to my bill, H.R. 8768, the "Keeping America's Energy Resources Moving Act," a bill that would solve a thorny issue that has arisen in the U.S. lightering industry, and which affects our nation's energy independence and our national security. A bipartisan group of House members have worked with the House Judiciary Committee, the State Department, and Customs and Border Protection to raise awareness of this critical problem and to identify a solution acceptable to the House, executive agencies, and industry groups. I am grateful for the considerable work put in by my congressional colleagues, the House Judiciary Staff, and affected industry groups to craft this legislative fix, and I hope that the House will act soon to make it law.

For those who do not know, lightering is the use of "lighter" vessel to load and off load crude oil and natural gas from very large tanker ships whose draft is too deep to access U.S. port facilities. Lightering vessels and the seafarers who work onboard these vessels are key to supporting and maintaining our domestic energy exports and ensuring imports of needed crude oil as feedstock for our domestic refiners along the Gulf Coast, in Southern California, and in Delaware. That is why the industry is vital to the transport of crude oil and natural gas both in and out of our domes-

tic ports, the lifeblood of the American energy and petrochemical industries. This industry quietly forms the connective tissue that has enabled American energy to power the world. Without the ability to ensure that lightering can take place, there could be crude oil shortages for U.S. refineries resulting in the lack of production of gasoline for our cars, jet fuel for our planes, and heating oil to heat U.S. homes in the winter. It is just that simple.

The problem in question stems from the disconnect between the visas that seafarers rely upon and the necessities of the employment contracts of lightering crews. These seafarers must transit through a U.S. port of entry and remain on board their vessels operating in and out of U.S. waters for up to 180 days in order to perform their tasks as part of a lightering vessel crew, but, under current law, they can only remain for 29 days without being granted parole by Customs and Border Protection—a cumbersome administrative process allowed under U.S. law but one we should not have to rely upon. A fix is needed to replace this band-aid approach. By providing statutory authorization for liquid lightering crewmembers to transit the United States for up to 180 days, this bill will streamline a cumbersome multi-agency process and ensure that the domestic energy production and refining capacity that underlines our economy and national security can continue. For this reason, and this reason alone, we introduced legislation to solve this problem and provide certainty to this industry, and thus to our economy.

Unfortunately, we are now in the closing days of the 116th Congress and have run out of time to enact this technical, but necessary, legislative fix. Therefore, I plan to reintroduce our bipartisan bill, the "Keeping America's Energy Resources Moving Act," in the opening days of the 117th Congress, and I remain committed to solving this problem then.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I was absent for votes on December 16–17, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 244 (S. 2216); and YEA on Roll Call No. 245 (H.R. 3250).

RECOGNITION OF CHRIS GUINAN

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Chris Guinan, a Philadelphia difference-maker, before the United States House of Representatives. Mr. Guinan has become a symbol of the can-do neighborly spirit that is the embodiment of The City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection.

Since 2011, Mr. Guinan, aided by his wife, Cindy, his son, Christian, his daughter, Lauren, and his granddaughter, Sophia, has successfully donated 1,000 bikes to children

throughout Philadelphia who previously lacked this essential mode of transportation and freedom.

Mr. Guinan achieved this remarkable feat through a combination of years of his own hard work—finding and fixing a great many of these bikes—and the generous donations of others, including his colleagues at SEPTA, where he worked for 30 years until his retirement.

Chris Guinan embodies a commitment to the public good. His efforts to make life better for Philadelphia's children are a model for the upwelling of selflessness and giving that has kept America going through these difficult times. He embodies the spirit of Philadelphia—and of America.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincerest appreciation to Chris Guinan for his—and his family's—extraordinary work on behalf of our community.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL CETINA

HON. SEAN CASTEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 2020

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and mourn the untimely passing of Michael Cetina of Wheaton, Illinois. Mike passed away unexpectedly on Thanksgiving Day.

Mike's full and productive life touched so many and he will be deeply missed. His family lost their beloved husband, father, and brother, many lost a great friend, and Wheaton lost a pillar of the community.

As a lawyer, Mike's work ethic and commitment to upholding the law and advocating for the vulnerable was an inspiration. Early in his legal career, Mike represented the people of DuPage County as an Assistant State's Attorney, and for the last 30 years he has advocated on behalf of those who were needlessly injured or killed through negligence or neglect. He was very active in the legal community, where he led, mentored, and taught other lawyers. Throughout his legal career, Mike demonstrated diligent, passionate and ethical professionalism.

Also an outstanding athlete, Mike gave his time and effort generously to the community through coaching youth sports, including more than a decade coaching and helping lead Wheaton youth football. Mike leaves a beautiful legacy of hundreds of young athletes who learned from his mentorship, colleagues in the law who were inspired by his professionalism, clients well-served by his advocacy, and an entire community who was enriched by his friendship.

Madam Speaker, Mike Cetina was an outstanding man, and I ask that the House join me in expressing our profound gratitude for his life and service, and our deepest sympathy to his wife of 33 years, Tammy, to their children, Danny, Tori, Allie, and Tommy, and to the people of Wheaton, for this tremendous loss.